

North Carolina Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2004

Members Present

Rich Greb, Chair	X	Jimmy Arrington Kent Earnhardt	X	Lucy Dorsey	X
Libby Jones, Co-Chair	X	Mary Bethel	X	Rochelle Edwards	
Dan Fox	X	Linner Ward Griffin	Ex.	Patricia Harris	
John Hayes		Ellen Holliman	X	Bill Hussey	
Diann Irwin		Bill Jones	X	Phyllis Kennedy	X
Jeff McCloud	X	Dorothy O'Neal	X	James Osberg Sherry Harrison	X
Pat Prescott	Ex	Chris Rakes	X	Frank Read	Ex.
Osborne Shamberger		Paula Snipes		Mary Rea Todd	X
Sheila Wall-Hill	X	Carolyn Wiser	X	Laura Yates	Ex.
Allyn Guffey Kaye Holder	X				

Guests

Bonnie Morell	X	Kent Earnhardt	X	Susan Robinson	X
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Staff to Council

Judy Bright	X	Markita Keaton	X	Vanessa Holman	
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Handouts

1. *Draft North Carolina Community mental Health Services Block Grant Plan for SFY 2004-2005*
2. *Member Address Update*
3. *Member Attendance Update*
4. *Agenda*
5. *Reimbursement Form*
6. *Inside/Outside: Building a Meaningful Life After the Hospital Video with accompanying booklet*
7. *CMH Newsletters*
8. *CTSP & MR/MI HB1414 budget bill language*

The Minutes were approved as presented. Judy Bright let the members know that Minutes were now being posted on the Mental Health Planning Council's web site.

Rich Greb, Chair

Rich Greb reviewed the purpose for this meeting being moved from the scheduled September date to August. He reported that he had met with Jeff McCloud, Chris Rakes, and Ellen Holliman an hour before the Council meeting to develop comments in response to the 2004 Mental Health Block Grant Plan application. The major issue identified by sub-committee members was money. Members wanted more specific information on how block grant funds are being used; per Local Management Entity (LME), where the block grant funds are going; and a breakdown of block grant surpluses and how these dollars

are spent. There followed a general discussion with questions being asked of Bonnie Morell by Council members regarding different sections of the Plan.

Concern was expressed about the target population funding and the need to do more prevention. Susan Robinson reported that the N.C. child population service definitions allow a little more leeway; so more children with serious emotional disturbances are served within a broader range. She also reported that House Bill 1414 allows the Division to address policy barriers for accessing funding for services.

Another issue involved the need for training for families. The Council felt that the goal (page 87 of the draft Plan) did not provide enough information in the descriptor about training. Robinson reported that NC NAMI for Children is receiving funding for training for families and professionals. As well, up to 3% of CTSP funds can be used for training.

Reports, Discussion & Announcements

Susan Robinson, Child Plan Manager, Prevention and Early Intervention Team, reported the following:

1. Update on Child Plan implementation:
 - Susan shared a division staff update. Dr. Michael Lancaster has joined the Division as the Clinical Policy Director. Susan has worked with Dr. Lancaster in his previous capacity in medical policy and utilization review with Value Options and Health Choice. In his new capacity with the Division, Susan will be working together with Dr. Lancaster to implement the Child Plan with support of cross team representation for implementation an internal division. Susan also stated that the child web page (part of the division web page) will be updated in the next quarter;
 - As part of the communications plan, the second quarterly Child Plan newsletter is out and posted upon the web. Susan noted that Libby Jones and her son were highlighted in this quarter's newsletter among other youth and family members. Copies of the first and second quarterly newsletters were distributed to members; and
2. Update on children served through the CMH plan and integrated payment reimbursement system (IPRS): As of July 1, 2004, Division of Public Health is the lead agency and is funding all services (state & federal funds under Part C of IDEA) for infants and toddlers with or at risk for special needs, including atypical social-emotional development and their families. Three to five year old children have been added to the child mental health target populations.
3. Update on legislation and funding related to children's services: The CTSP (Comprehensive Treatment Services Program) special provision as amended this legislative session appears in the budget bill. In response to the legislature's concern that a portion of the funds remained unspent, a study is being conducted resulting in recommendations for creating policies and eliminating barriers to facilitate increasing the number of children served. Recommendations have been drafted and are pending division and department approval. In addition to the study and enacting the recommendations, a provision of the budget bill allows for a part of the funds to go into the trust fund instead of reverting. These same elements are true for the MR/MI

State funds appropriated. Susan distributed a copy of the HB1414 language to members.

Markita Keaton shared several web sites with Council Members. Those shared will be posted on the Division's web page for the Council.

Rich Greb asked that members send to him names of individuals they would like to recommend for vacant Council positions.

The need for more formal training and conference participation by Council Members was discussed. Libby Jones, Bill Jones and Jeff McLoud proposed to form a committee to develop a budget and recommendations for training and retreats to bring before Council Members for review and approval.

Libby Jones recommended that the Council take a stand on and respond to legislation to dilute IDEA.

Mary Reca Todd shared information regarding a program, August 31, *How to develop housing for people with special needs*. She volunteered to provide an overview on how housing is funded for the Members. There was general support for this to occur.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Judy Bright